



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
SENIOR MISSION COMMAND FORT CARSON  
6101 WETZEL AVENUE, BLDG. 1430  
FORT CARSON, COLORADO 80913-4145**

**REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF**

**AFZC-CS**

**28 DEC 2006**

**MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION**

**SUBJECT: Open Burning Without a Permit Is Prohibited**

1. Reference. Memorandum, AFZC-ECM, 10 January 2006, subject: Open Burning Without an Air Permit on Fort Carson.
2. Purpose. To ensure all personnel on Fort Carson understand limitations on and consequences of open burning.
3. Applicability. This directive applies to all Fort Carson units, commands, and personnel assigned or attached to Fort Carson and the Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site and all personnel on the Installation whether military, civil service, or contractor.
4. Background
  - a. Colorado law prohibits any burning of materials outdoors unless an open burning permit is obtained prior to the activity. Requests for open burning permits must be submitted through the Directorate of Environmental Compliance and Management (DECAM) air program.
  - b. A major problem with open burning has been its use by deploying and redeploying units to destroy classified documents. Army Regulation 380-5 does not approve open burn barrels for destroying classified documents. Such burning must be in a controlled furnace or incinerator, neither of which Fort Carson has and would require a permit. Units should contact the Installation Security Directorate for instructions on proper disposition of unneeded classified documents.
  - c. Open burning activities without a permit are illegal and may result in Uniform Code of Military Justice or civilian court conviction, or adverse administrative action for individuals, fines for units, or both.
  - d. Commanders and heads of organizations are responsible for transmitting the contents of this memorandum to all personnel assigned to or supporting them.
  - e. The flier gives a concise explanation of this issue and should be posted appropriately to help avoid violations of the open burning prohibitions (encl 1).


AFZC-CS

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5. The DECAM POCs are Mr. Mark Bradbury, 526-4683 or Ms. Sally Atkins, 526-6601.

Encl  
Open Burn Flier

  
EUGENE SMITH  
COL, FA  
Garrison Commander

  
B. SHANNON DAVIS  
COL, GS  
Chief of Staff

DISTRIBUTION:  
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## **ATTENTION SOLDIERS AND RESIDENTS: BURNING RESTRICTIONS ON FORT CARSON**



**Violations of  
County/State regulations:  
potential to result in fines  
and poor public relations  
for Fort Carson!**



**What constitutes open burning?** Burning of rubbish, wastepaper, wood, vegetative material, or other flammable material for disposal purposes.

**NO:** burning **ANYTHING** on the ground or in any container (i.e., burn barrel/drum, trash can, dumpster) Although burn barrels are commonly used in overseas military operations, their use on Fort Carson is prohibited. **ONLY exception: approved by the County with an annual permit, is at the MOUT sites using barrels and non-treated firewood.**

**NO:** non-commercial burning of private household trash, rubber, tires, plastic, insulated wire, or other similar materials.

**NO:** burning of classified materials. Although Army regulation 380-5 allows for the disposal of classified paper-based materials in a controlled furnace/incinerator, Fort Carson does not have any such permitted units. **Alternative methods available for classified paper-based and non-paper-based materials at Building 1130.**

**YES:** campfires/barbeques in designated areas **ONLY** in cantonment, down range, TCRA, Iron Horse Park, and PCMS for recreational/food purposes. **Except no campfires allowed during a burn ban due to impaired air quality or extreme fire hazard.**

**YES:** a recreational bonfire for a special event. However, it will require a county open burn permit. Coordinate with the DECAM Air Program.

**YES:** prescribed burn or slash pile burning (only by DPW Fire Dept. or DECAM Wildland Fire Team). Requires county/state burn permit and approved burn plan.

### **Important Contacts:**

DECAM Air Program: 526-6601/1708

Fort Carson Fire Dept: 526-2679

Residential Housing: 579-1606 ext. 11

El Paso County Health Dept: 578-3137 (Air Quality Info. 578-3134)

Colorado Dept. of Public Health and Environment: 303-692-3174

Classified document disposal: 526-3588

DPW trash disposal: 526-9235

El Paso County Fire Marshall: 575-8590

**BURNING RESTRICTIONS ON FORT CARSON**  
**CONTACT THE DECAM AIR PROGRAM 526-6601/526-1708**

**OPEN BURNING INCIDENTS**

The Fort Carson Fire Department has extinguished numerous fires in dumpsters, trash cans, and barrels throughout 2005, as well as found evidence of fires in these containers, which were used to burn documents. Additionally, dumpsters have been found to contain batteries and other hazardous materials, which have also caught on fire. All of these reported and non-reported fires constitute not only environmental violations, but also pose serious health and safety concerns. Although AR 380-5 lists burning as the first option for destroying classified documents, it must be in a controlled furnace/incinerator. Fort Carson does not have any such permitted units, but it does have a specified shredder for classified documents at Bldg 1130.

**FORT CARSON MAY BE FINED FOR THIS VIOLATION, WHICH WILL BE GIVEN TO THE  
UNIT RESPONSIBLE**

**OPEN BURNING REGULATORY DEFINITIONS**

Army Regulation 380-5, Chapter 3, Section V, 3-15.a. Approved routine methods of destruction Burning. A means of pyrolysis (high temperature multistage), by forced-air incinerators, or by any other incinerator or incendiary equipment.

El Paso County: Burning any material or substance in the ambient air or in a receptacle other than a properly designed furnace such as an incinerator or other equipment connected to a stack or chimney.

State Regulation 9: Burning of rubbish, wastepaper, wood, vegetative material or any other flammable material on any open premises, or on any public street, alley, or other land adjacent to such premises.

**REGULATIONS/PERMIT CONDITIONS VIOLATED**

- 1) Fort Carson's Title V Operating Permit # 95OPEP110, General Condition # 16 Open Burning: The permittee shall obtain a permit from the Division for any regulated open burning activities in accordance with provisions of Regulation No.1, Section II C.
- 2) Colorado State Regulation No. 1, Section II.C. Open Burning: No person shall burn or allow the burning of rubbish, wastepaper, wood, or other flammable material on any open premises, or on any public street, alley, or other land adjacent to such premises, unless an open burning permit is first obtained from the Division.
- 3) Colorado State Regulation No. 9, Section III, Open Burning Permit Requirements: No person shall conduct any open burning activity not exempted from this regulation without first obtaining an open burning permit from the division or from a local agency. No person shall burn or allow the burning of rubbish, wastepaper, wood, vegetative material, or any other flammable material on any open premises, or on any public street, alley, or other land adjacent to such premises without first obtaining an open burning permit from the division or local agency.
- 4) El Paso County Department of Health and Environment, Section 2.9 Open Burning: No person shall burn or allow the burning of rubbish, waste paper, wood, or other flammable material on any open premises or on any public street, alley, or other land adjacent to such premises unless an open burning permit is first obtained from Health Department. **No permit will be issued for any open burning activity if a practical feasible alternative method of disposal exists as determined by the Department.**
- 5) Army Regulation 380-5, Chapter 3, Section V, 3-15.a. Since there are limitations, in some areas, on bulk incineration, for environmental reasons...mechanical destruction systems have replaced incineration at many commands.
- 6) Fort Carson Regulation 200-1, Chapter 4, Section 3.7. Open Burn/Open Detonation (OB/OD) Activities: Open burning of paper, leaves, refuse, vegetation or other flammable material on any open premises or land on the Installation is strictly prohibited at all times.